

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application and have been indicated as allowable over the prior art. Claims 16 and 20 have been amended to address rejections as to their form. In addition, the specification has been amended to change the status of the present application from a divisional application to a continuation application. No new matter has been introduced by the amendment.

Specification Objection

The continuing data set forth in paragraph 0001 of the specification has been objected to for improperly identifying the above-referenced application as a divisional application of the parent application serial no. 10/372,625. This objection is believed overcome in view of the amendment of paragraph 0001 to identify the instant application as a continuation of application serial no. 10/372,625.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

Claims 16-20 have been rejected in view of the failure to recite the cutting of cheese shreds in claim 16. Claim 20 has been further rejected for the inadvertent omission of the word "by" in the claim. This rejection is believed overcome in view of the amendment of claim 20 to recite the "cutting shreds of cheese from a front face of the block of cheese." Further, claim 20 has been amended to include the word "by" prior to " the phrase "extruding the cheese."

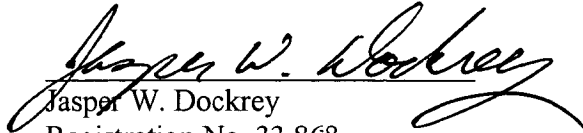
Obviousness Type Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 1-20 have been rejected over claims 1-7 and 10-13 of U.S. Patent No. 6,340,490. This rejection is believed overcome in view of the accompanying terminal disclaimer.

Application No. 10/829,094
Amendment. Dated December 10, 2004
Reply to Office Action of September 10, 2004

The applicant has made a novel and non-obvious contribution to the art of materials handling. The present claims are believed to distinguish over the prior art and to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, such allowance is now earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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